

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Amend claims: 4-10 and 13 and added new claims 14 to 28.

1. (Original) A system for removal of a toxic gas from a fly ash powder contaminated with the toxic gas, the system comprising:
 - a source of the contaminated fly ash powder;
 - a stripper assembly for stripping at least part of the toxic gas from a batch load of the contaminated fly ash powder;
 - connecting means for fluidly connecting the source with the stripper assembly for transporting the contaminated fly ash powder from the source to the stripper assembly; wherein the stripper assembly comprises two or more stripper vessels, and the connecting means is arranged to selectively connect the source to one or more of the stripper vessels.
2. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the source comprises collecting means for collecting contaminated fly ash powder prior to discharging the collected contaminated fly ash powder to the stripper assembly via the connecting means.
3. (Original) The system of claim 2, wherein the collecting means is arranged to collect the batch load of the contaminated fly ash powder.
4. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 2 ~~or 3~~, wherein the collecting means is provided in the form of a collecting vessel or a collecting hopper.
5. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 2, ~~3 or 4~~, wherein the collecting means is provided in the form of a sluice vessel for sluicing the batch load from a first pressure to a second pressure different from the first pressure.
6. (Currently Amended) The system of ~~any one of the previous claims~~ claim 1, wherein the stripper assembly is provided with purge means arranged to supply a purge fluid to the batch load.

7. (Currently Amended) The system of ~~any one of the previous claims~~ claim 1, wherein the connecting means is arranged to establish gravity-driven transport of the batch load from the source to the stripper assembly.

8. (Currently Amended) The system of ~~any one of the previous claims~~ claim 1, wherein the connecting means comprises a split branch unit comprising a main arm conduit fluidly connectable to the source, and at least two distributor arm conduits each of which fluidly connectable to one of the stripper vessels.

9. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 8, wherein at least a first one of the two distributor arm conduits comprises a slanted section extending over a non-vertical trajectory, ~~preferably extending under an angle of between 1° and 30° from the vertical.~~

10. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 8 ~~or 9~~, wherein the distributor arm conduits are each provided with a valve, ~~preferably a ball valve~~, for selectively controlling transport of the fly ash powder through the respective distributor arm conduit.

11. (Original) A method of de-toxicating a fly ash powder contaminated with a toxic gas, wherein de-toxicating comprises at least partially removing the toxic gas from the contaminated fly ash powder, and the method comprises the steps of:

- providing a stripper assembly;
- transporting the contaminated fly ash powder from the source to the stripper assembly;
- stripping at least part of the toxic gas from a batch load of the contaminated fly ash powder in the stripper assembly;

wherein the provided stripper assembly comprises two or more stripper vessels and wherein transporting the contaminated fly ash powder from the source to the stripper assembly includes:

- selecting one or more of the stripper vessels; and
- transporting the contaminated fly ash powder to the selected one or more stripper vessels.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein, prior to the step of transporting the contaminated fly ash powder from the source to the stripper assembly, the batch load of the contaminated fly ash powder is collected in a collecting vessel, and wherein transporting the contaminated fly ash powder from the source to the stripper assembly includes transporting the contaminated fly ash powder from the collecting vessel to the stripper assembly.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 ~~or~~ 12, wherein, simultaneously to said steps, a preceding batch load of the contaminated fly ash powder is being stripped in an unselected stripper vessel.

14. (New) The system of claim 9, wherein the slanted section extends under an angle of between 1° and 30° from the vertical.

15. (New) The system of claim 10, wherein the valve comprises a ball valve.

16. (New) A system for removal of a toxic gas from a fly-ash-containing powder contaminated with the toxic gas, the system comprising:

- a gasification reactor for producing synthesis gas;
- a fly-ash separator arranged to receive fly-ash-containing synthesis gas from the gasification reactor;
- a depressurising chamber arranged to receive a batch load of the fly-ash-containing powder from the fly-ash separator, and arranged to depressurise the batch load from a first pressure to a second pressure lower than the first pressure;
- first connecting means for fluidly connecting the fly-ash separator with the depressurising chamber for transporting the contaminated fly-ash-containing powder from the fly-ash separator to the depressurising chamber;
- a stripper assembly for stripping at least part of the toxic gas from the batch load of the contaminated fly-ash-containing powder;
- second connecting means for fluidly connecting the depressurising chamber to the stripper assembly for transporting the contaminated fly-ash-containing powder from the depressurising chamber to the stripper assembly;

wherein the second connecting means is arranged to establish gravity-driven transport of the batch load from the depressurising chamber to the stripper assembly.

17. (New) The system of claim 16, wherein the depressurising chamber is arranged gravitationally higher than the stripper assembly.

18. (New) The system of claim 16, wherein the stripper assembly is provided with purge means arranged to supply a purge fluid to the batch load.

19. (New) The system of claim 16, wherein the second connecting means extends vertically or comprises a slanted section extending over a non-vertical trajectory.

20. (New) The system of claim 19, wherein the slanted section extends under an angle of between 1° and 30° from the vertical.

21. (New) The system of claim 16, wherein the first connection means is arranged to establish gravity-driven transport of the contaminated fly ash.

22. (New) The system of claim 21, wherein the fly-ash separator is arranged gravitationally higher than the depressurising chamber.

23. (New) The system of claim 16, wherein the depressurising chamber is provided in the form of a sluice hopper.

24. (New) A method of de-toxicating a fly-ash-containing powder contaminated with a toxic gas, wherein de-toxicating comprises at least partially removing the toxic gas from the contaminated fly-ash-containing powder, and the method comprises the steps of:

- producing a stream of fly-ash-containing synthesis gas by partial oxidation of a carbonaceous fuel;
- providing a fly-ash stripper, a depressurising chamber, and a stripper assembly;

- receiving the stream of fly-ash-containing synthesis gas in the fly-ash stripper and discharging fly-ash separated from the synthesis gas in the form of the fly-ash-containing powder into the depressurising chamber;
 - depressurising the fly-ash-containing powder from a first pressure to a second pressure lower than the first pressure;
 - transporting the fly-ash-containing powder from the depressurising chamber to the stripper assembly;
 - stripping at least part of the toxic gas from a batch load of the fly-ash-containing powder in the stripper assembly;
- wherein transporting the fly-ash-containing powder to the stripper assembly is driven by gravity.

25. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein transporting the fly ash containing powder is achieved by dropping the fly-ash-containing powder.

26. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein discharging fly-ash separated from the synthesis gas in the form of the fly-ash-containing powder into the depressurising chamber is driven by gravity.

27. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein discharging fly-ash separated from the synthesis gas in the form of the fly-ash-containing powder into the depressurising chamber is achieved by dropping the fly-ash-containing powder.

28. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the depressurising chamber is provided in the form of a sluice vessel.